

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Hiroyuki KOBAYASHI
Group Art Unit : Not Yet Assigned
Appl. No. : 10/770,843
Examiner : Not Yet Assigned
Filed : February 4, 2004
For : VIDEO ENDOSCOPE APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98,

Applicant calls to the Examiner's attention the following documents:

U.S. Patent No. 4,930,516 to ALFANO et al., which issued on June 5, 1990;

U.S. Patent No. 5,421,337 to RICHARDS-KORTUM et al., which issued on June 6, 1995;

U.S. Patent No. 6,099,466 to SANO et al., which issued on August 8, 2000;

U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0064016 to KOBAYASHI et al., which was published on April 1, 2004; and

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2000-023903, which was published on January 25, 2000, together with patent family member U.S. Patent No. 6,371,908 to FURUSAWA et al., which issued on April 16, 2002. Applicant notes that the Japanese patent document is discussed on page 1 of the specification.

Further to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's decision to waive the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(i), copies of the U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publication are not enclosed herewith. However, if any copies are needed, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. A copy of the above-noted Japanese patent document is attached and all of the documents have been listed on the attached PTO-1449 Form. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form and to return a copy of the Form to the Applicant with the next official communication in the present application to confirm consideration of these documents.

Applicant notes that an Office Action on the merits has not issued in the instant application, and thus no fee is believed necessary to ensure consideration of the submitted material. However, if an Office Action on the merits has issued and is crossing this statement in the mail, the undersigned hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any fee necessary for the consideration of this statement, including any payment under 37 C.F.R. §1.17 (p), to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Hiroyuki KOBAYASHI

Bruce H. Bernstein
Reg. No. 29,027

May 3, 2004
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Form PTO-1449

U.S. Department of Commerce
Patent and Trademark OfficeAtty. Docket No.
P24585Serial No.
10/770,843INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
BY APPLICANT
(Use several sheets if necessary)Applicant
Hiroyuki KOBAYASHIFiling Date
February 4, 2004Group
2613

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER							DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		4	9	3	0	5	1	6	06/05/90	ALFANO et al.			
		5	4	2	1	3	3	7	06/06/95	RICHARDS-KORTUM et al.			
		6	0	9	9	4	6	6	08/08/00	SANO et al.			
	2004 /	0	0	6	4	0	1	6	04/01/04	KOBAYASHI et al.			
		6	3	7	1	9	0	8	04/16/02	FURUSAWA et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER							DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO	
	2000	-	0	2	3	9	0	3	01/25/00	JAPAN				

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.